

Regional Transportation Authority

A 20-year plan

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Congestion today

- 2/3 of the region's roads are congested during today's rush hour?
- Average motorist in Tucson spends 36 hours a year stuck in traffic.
- Buses are running at capacity during rush hour

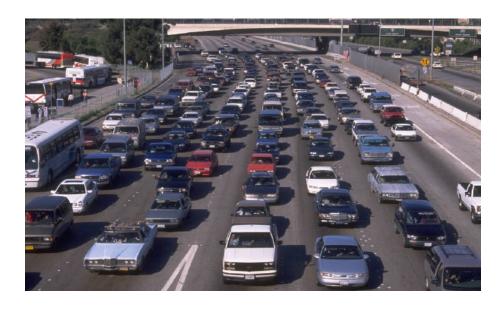






Congestion tomorrow

- In the next twenty years our population will increase by 54%,
- 67% increase in elderly/disabled transportation needs and
- 96% increase in vehicle miles traveled these factors will result in:



A 550% increase in severe travel congestion





Developing a Solution

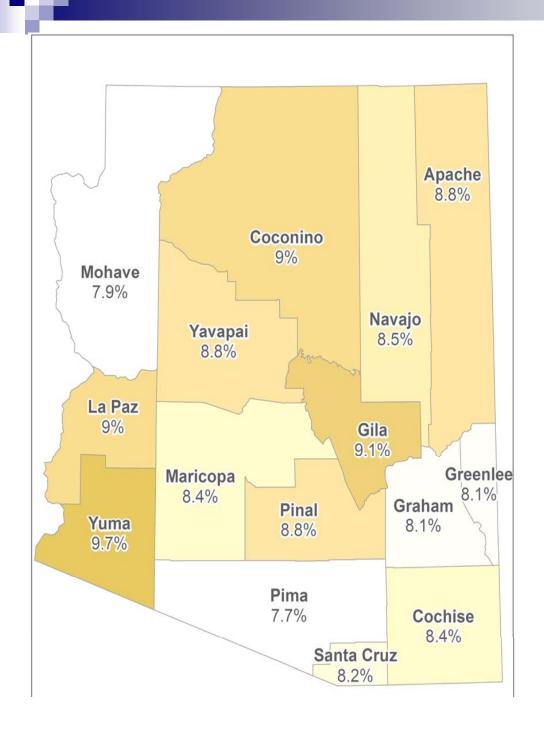
- Legislature creates Regional Transportation Authority
- RTA Board established
- Technical/Management Committee provides technical review and recommendations
- 35-member volunteer Citizens Advisory Committee donates more than 2,000 hours toward development of 20-year regional plan











Finding a solution

- RTA developed \$2.1 billion, 20-year regional transportation plan.
- RTA plan would be funded by ½ cent excise (sales) tax.
- Substantial costs will be paid by visitors.
- ½ cent excise tax equates to \$2 per month for the average citizen





RTA Plan Elements

- 35 major roadway improvement projects.
- Corridor Enhancements

 (7 east-west and 7 north-south corridors)
- 200 new lane miles
- Transit Improvements
 - extended bus routes
 - major routes: double the frequency of busses
 - increased service hours (evenings and weekends)
 - 6 new park-and-ride centers
 - new high-capacity street car







RTA Plan Elements

- Safety Improvements
 - 200 intersection improvements
 - 10 new and improved railroad crossings
 - 200 new bus pullouts
 - 80 new and improved pedestrian crossings
- Environment & Economic Vitality Enhancements
 - 550 linear miles of new bicycle lanes and trails
 - 250 linear miles of new sidewalks
 - Critical wildlife linkages
 - Small business assistance



Affected Purchases

Taxable Items:

- Retail sales
- Contracting
- Utilities
- Restaurant/Bars

Exempt Items:

 Groceries, Prescription Drugs, and Residential Rentals







RTA Plan Oversight



- Final plan must specify costs for all projects and establish a timeline for construction start periods.
- Substantial changes must be approved by voters.
- Citizens Oversight Committee will be established to ensure concepts are being implemented.
- Annual Public Report will be published.

